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Contents for Week of November 19, 1928. Vol. VII. No. 18.

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FEEDING A MONTH-OLD BABY RHINOCEROS

(See Bulletin No. 2)

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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Afghanistan and Its "Top Hat War"

AFGHANISTAN is the scene of a style revolt which may go down in history as the "Top Hat War."

When Amanullah Khan, King of Afghanistan, visited Europe last winter he saw many customs that were new to him. On his return to Kabul he determined to introduce some of these Western ways among his people.

© Photograph by Haji Mirza Hussein

AMANULLAH KHAN, KING OF AFGHANISTAN

Since he came to the throne nine years ago Amanullah has speeded up progress in his mountain state.

Amanullah ordered that representatives to the Afghanistan parliament lay aside the turban and gown. He commanded that they dress in frock coats, trousers, black shoes and wear silk "toppers" just like European lawmakers.

Some Afghans refused to obey. So police were sent out, dispatches report, to enforce the King's orders.

Speeding Up the Wheels of Progress

For centuries Afghanistan plodded along at a slow oriental pace. Then came young Amanullah, who "stepped on the gas." In nine years' reign he has built up a French-trained army, made treaties, sent out diplomats, created a two-house legislature, revised local government, established new courts, strung telephone and telegraph wires and developed motor roads. Amanullah was the first Afghan amir to tour Europe.

Speedier progress is his motto. He has invited Germans to make a geological survey, Russians to create an Afghan aviation corps, and French to install radio equipment and to make archeological studies. Under his regime the Moslem women have taken off their veils, polygamy has been banned, and child-marriage forbidden. For the first time Afghan women may receive education.

Amanullah is intent on making over his nation. Elementary schools have been started in every town and village. Two colleges have been opened in Kabul, the capital, which also has a new national museum.

What a contrast with Afghanistan of fifteen years ago!

Until after the World War Afghanistan neither sent nor received diplomatic representatives, and only one or two natives of importance had ever traveled

© Photograph by J. W. Beattie

AN EAST INDIAN ISLANDER WITH HIS FISHING POLE

In New Guinea and adjacent islands it is customary to use a spear instead of a hook to catch fish. Papuans of New Guinea and the Polynesians of islands farther east are quite different types. The former are distinguished by dark kinky hair, while the latter have skins that are more nearly yellow and hair that is straight (See Bulletin No. 4).

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New British Dominion in Africa Considered

ANOTHER great British dominion made up of Kenya Colony, Tanganyika, Nyasaland and Uganda may be the product of an official survey. The commission investigating the proposed federation has returned from Africa and will present its report in London next month.

NEW BRITISH DOMINION UNDER CONSIDERATION

A commission has been traveling through four colonies in British East Africa investigating the proposal to federate them into one dominion. The boundaries meet other British territory in the north and in the southwest.

Measured by miles, such a "Dominion of British East Africa" would be as large as the United States east of the Mississippi. Measured by white population, it would equal the student body of the University of California. There are 16,400 white men, women and children in the four colonies and 10,880,000 natives.

The area of the commission's survey is a land of simsim and ghee, of sisal and wimbi, of cotton and corn. It includes the "Mountains of the Moon" and the world's greatest rut. There the zoo runs wild.

King of Bugandas Sends Message to American Boys

Eighteen years ago Theodore Roosevelt went to British East Africa to hunt. On the uplands of Kenya and Tanganyika roam lions, hartebeest, leopards, antelopes, zebras, rhinoceroses and gazelles as did the buffalo on our Western plains. Game in Africa is going the way of the buffalo in America, but huge preserves set aside by the government will prevent extermination. Ukerewe, an island in Lake Victoria, has been isolated as one elephant preserve.

One of the chief exports of these colonies is sisal for binding twine. They borrowed the plant from Central America. But England hopes she can cultivate cotton, tan bark, and coffee. Already Uganda sends out more than 200,000 bales of cotton annually.

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farther from the country than to Mecca or Constantinople. Foreigners are not yet accepted freely in Afghanistan, but the nation has received, since 1922, legations from Great Britain, France, Italy, Germany, Russia, Turkey, and Persia.

Khyber Pass Is the Gateway to Afghanistan

It was easy to maintain the isolation of Afghanistan because of barriers of sand and mountains that nature erected. A backbone of high mountains, the continuation of the Hindu-Kush range, extends east and west through the country. Lower, but extremely rugged mountains, offshoot to the north and south. In the south and southwest are deserts.

The main doorway to Afghanistan is the famous Khyber Pass, which leads from near Peshawar, India, to Kabul, the Afghanistan capital. This passageway is still jealously guarded. It is always closed from sunset to sunrise, and in daylight is open only on Tuesdays and Fridays. The defile is so narrow that two-way traffic is impossible. The road is open for outbound caravans in the morning, and for inbound caravans in the afternoon. As many as 120,000 loaded animals—camels, mules, horses, and occasional elephants—move through the pass annually.

Agents of the King scrutinize closely all who come and go with these caravans. Over the Khyber Pass, in stone watch towers and in hidden, rocky nooks, sharp-eyed Afghans stand guard. They are provided with imported field glasses and high-powered rifles. Military expeditions against these hardy highlanders always fare ill.

His Father Had 100 Wives—Amanullah Has But One

The six or seven million people inhabiting Afghanistan are predominantly Mohammedans of the Suni or orthodox faith. Now that Turkey is not supreme in the councils of Islam, the King of Afghanistan is a power in the Islamic world. The father of the present king had a harem of more than 100 wives. Amanullah Khan has only one wife, but fifty automobiles.

Until 1922 Afghanistan was an unlimited monarchy, the ruler being known as the Amir. In that year the Amir changed the government to a constitutional monarchy and adopted the title of King.

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A Century of Zoo Progress

TWO OF the oldest zoos of Europe have appeared in the news recently. The Jardin des Plantes in Paris may close the doors of its menagerie because of lack of funds.

The London Zoological Gardens is celebrating its hundredth anniversary.

Every civilization has kept animals in captivity. Egyptians, Greeks and Romans had extensive collections which, however, scarcely rose above the level of menageries. Europeans saw the first American buffalo a captive 400 miles south of its range in the gardens of Montezuma II, emperor of the Aztecs.

Yet in the New World the first assembly of animals and birds for scientific and educational purposes, which merits the name of zoological garden, was organized in 1857. In New York's Central Park still may be seen the oldest zoo in America, a small collection now overshadowed by the tremendous growth of its successor, the Bronx Zoo.

Hagenbeck Scheme of Barless Pens to be Used in Chicago

Nearly every large American city and smaller ones have organized, are building, or expect to establish zoos. Toledo has just opened one; Detroit is completing a splendid zoo park, likewise San Diego. The Lincoln Park Menagerie, beloved by Chicago, will soon be supplemented by a huge, costly reserve on the southwest edge of the city. It will be built in the most modern style of zoo architecture to house an extensive collection.

The Hagenbecks, at Stellingen, on the outskirts of Hamburg, Germany, created in 1907 the modern style of zoo planning which has had widespread influence. Their scheme of barless pens will be a major feature of the new Chicago park.

Back in 1848 the great-grandfather of the present Hagenbecks began an animal collection with a few seals purchased from an Arctic whaler. By the time of the World War his son and grandson dominated the world trade in wild animals, owned a big circus, and had built their famous combination zoo, receiving station and animal training farm at Stellingen. On a level meadow in the flat plain near Hamburg they built the Hagenbeck concrete "mountains" to a height of 130 feet. Among the Hagenbeck highlands, lowlands and artificial lakes a visitor walks from the Arctic with its animals and birds to teeming Africa, and from Siberia to South America.

Where You Can Safely Look a Lion in the Eye

On approaching the African panorama one sees at his feet a pond with hundreds of African water birds. Back of them on a strip of open African prairie graze gnus, zebras, elands, bush bucks, and water bucks, entirely at ease in spite of the apparent constant danger of destruction by lions that lurk in a recess under a near-by cliff. Above the lions, and equally unafraid, wild goats, ibexes and wild sheep scamper on the concrete peaks.

Biblical peace among the animals and birds at Stellingen is maintained by hidden moats and gorges instead of fences. Moreover, the visitor may examine each group at closer range from pathways which are not observable to the person who regards the whole "animal kingdom" in panorama.

The Hagenbecks have been called into consultation by builders of new zoos

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Simsim is the native word for sesame, a staple seed food. Ghee is native butter, not too fresh, in which natives trade. Wimbi is millet.

Uganda is especially proud of its Bugandas, probably the most intelligent negroes of Africa. Their king, the Kabaka of Buganda, is Sir Daudi Chwa, who called a meeting of the Lukiko (native congress) to consider the question of federation.

Sir Daudi sent this message to American boys a few years ago "Noanyuse nyo okulamusa abalenzi bona abomu United States, Nze, Daudi Chwa, Kabaka," (I am glad to salute all the boys who are in the United States. I am, Daudi Chwa, the King).

Kisumu Terminus for Trains, Port for Planes and Lake Boats

Roosevelt, like nearly all visitors to British East Africa, landed at Mombasa. Because it has the best harbor, Mombasa will be the New York of this equatorial state if a dominion be created. From Mombasa the railroad goes inland through the unhealthy, low coastal plains, climbs to the high plateau, which has an agricultural future, dips into the Rift Valley, climbs again to the plateau and coasts down. Kisumu, terminus of the railroad, and port for steamships plying Lake Victoria, has recently built a landing field for the airplane service from Khartum and Cairo.

The Cape-to-Cairo railroad, yet uncompleted, will tie Britain's African possessions together from top to toe. At present only a curious geological fissure gives geographical unity to the British East Africa possessions. Lake Nyasa lies at one end of a great crack in the earth 3,500 miles long. Actually there are two cracks or "ruts," one of which swings west through Lake Tanganyika, Lake Victoria and the upper Nile Valley; but the main Rift Valley, as it is called, runs north through Tanganyika, Kenya, and Lake Rudolf, and on through Abyssinia; it carves the bed of the Red Sea, the Gulf of Akaba and ends in the Dead Sea below ocean level in Palestine.

A Bicarbonate of Soda Lake in the Rift Valley

But nowhere is Rift Valley more astounding than in East Africa, where its floor lies 2,000 feet below the normal plateau level. Sheer cliffs 70 miles apart wall the "rut." Rainfall in the valley collects in six lakes which have no outlets. One of them, Lake Magadi, has a crust, not of ice, but of bicarbonate of soda, quite enough to dose the world for thousands of years.

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Plant Explorers Find New Guinea Still Untamed

HUNGRY cannibals!

Two American plant hunters in New Guinea recently landed at Victoria, B. C., bringing 181 new varieties of sugar cane for the United States Department of Agriculture.

The plant hunters had flown their seaplane up the Fly River in search of wild sugar cane. While both men were at work on the plane the savages attacked them. A quick twist of the propeller started the motor, and the burst of noise sent the cannibals scurrying back into the jungle.

Australia and Holland Divide New Guinea

New Guinea is one of the last parts of the earth to be explored. The dense, tangled jungle has stopped men who wish to discover the many secrets of an island whose area is larger than that of the State of Texas.

New Guinea was first discovered by Portuguese and Spanish adventurers of the sixteenth century. The old sea captains gave the island its name, so it is said, because they thought its people looked like the natives of Guinea on the West African coast.

Later Dutch and English took over the claims of the first comers. At present the two nationalities divide New Guinea along the 141st meridian. The part facing Borneo and Java is under Dutch administration. The rest is governed by Australia. Australia has long had charge of the Papuan coast near her own shores, but the northern area of New Guinea, formerly a German colony, is now administered by Australia as a mandate under the League of Nations. Thus Australian rights in New Guinea are of two kinds, those prevailing in her old regions and those arising from the mandated territory north of her own possession.

Mountains Near Equator Have Snow Caps

British and Dutch portions of the island are much alike. High mountain ranges of the interior rise to heights of perpetual snow. Great rivers flow to the coast. Although New Guinea lies close to the equator, a variety of temperatures is afforded by her range in altitude. There is very little change from month to month, however, at a particular altitude, giving a monotonous climate to any one place on the island.

Native life in this part of the world has long been an object of serious study to scientists and racial experts. There seems to be considerable variation among the tribes, but in a general way it may be said that they are dark in color and have kinky or frizzly hair. Their Malay or Polynesian neighbors to the east and west are brown or yellow and have straight hair.

New Guinea natives have for years been considered particularly backward and savage. Often they have been accused of head-hunting and cannibalism. Along the coast in some places they live in rude huts built on piles above the water. Inland tribes, for the sake of protection, dwell in communal "long-houses" of enormous size.

In the far mountains of the interior there has been discovered recently a pygmy race of black men whose culture is that of the Stone Age. On account

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in the United States and other countries with the result that it will be possible at Chicago and Detroit to get almost the same thrill from looking a lion in the eye that one might get by journeying to Africa to meet the king of beasts on the veldt.

In furthering the educational purposes of zoos, America leads the way. Zoo keepers have acquired new duties as lecturers in the public schools, and in some parks trained guides help pupils to get more from a zoo trip than they would gather by unaided sightseeing. At the Bronx zoo motion pictures showing the habits of animals have been made for school use. St. Louis even recognizes the zoo as an institution on par with the public library and, as such, supports it with a subsidy of two mills out of every dollar paid for taxes.

The Oldest Zoo Apartment Holder Is a Tortoise

Zoological gardens have also striven to make their charges more comfortable. Cages are larger to-day and are kept cleaner. Winter temperatures are strictly controlled in zoo houses. The question of creating a tropic humidity for tropic animals is now under investigation. Variety of diet insisted upon at the new Toledo park requires that the zoo kitchens must never prepare the same meal on successive days for certain animals. Zoo keepers everywhere are watching an experiment in the London gardens, where ultra-violet lights have been mounted in the reptile house to bathe the snakes in artificial sunshine.

Better care has insured longer life and more success with young born in captivity. Zoos take great pride in their oldest "apartment holders." The reigning Methuselah is the tortoise in the London zoo known to be more than 100 years old. At Washington, D. C., the National Zoological Park, which is remarkable among American institutions for its specimens of unusual scientific interest, has a sulphur-crested cockatoo, spry and active, although he has entertained millions of visitors since the day the zoo opened thirty-eight years ago.

Animals More Subject to Sickness Than Humans

The Washington park orders an autopsy performed on every animal, bird, or reptile that dies. The bodies are sent to specialists in the government departments who cooperate in studying the causes of death. In this way parasites and bacteria new to science have been discovered. Animals have been found subject to almost every disease man must cope with—and many more. The diseases that are most dangerous to beasts and birds in captivity have been revealed by the voluminous records of ailments at the Washington zoo.

While zoos have helped to preserve from extinction some species, such as the New Zealand kiwi, they have not always succeeded. The Western antelope has proved too nervous for a fenced lot. Moose in captivity soon die of stomach trouble. Probably the most remarkable survival is the Father David deer, a species unknown to modern hunters, which was found in the Emperor's park in Peking. The deer now thrives and multiplies on the Duke of Bedford's estate at Woburn Abbey, England.

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The Spreewald Again Honors Chamberlin

CLARENCE D. CHAMBERLIN recently went back to Klinge, Germany. It was his second visit. Last year the world heard the news when he landed at Klinge, ending his historic flight from New York to Germany.

On the occasion of his return this year Chamberlin went to see the monument erected in honor of the flight on the spot where he brought the *Columbia* safely to earth. He was again royally entertained.

By merest chance Chamberlin landed in a most remarkable region of Germany. Klinge lies near the Spreewald, which is Germany's Venice. It is the land of the Wends, a fragment of a lost tribe, who live largely by their eel-traps, cucumber patches, hayfields and cherry trees.

Famous for Cucumbers, Eels and Cherry Pies

These Wends are the descendants of a band of half wild fugitives who, when the Goths laid waste to Western Europe, hid for safety in the great swamps near the Oder called the Spreewald.

After winding through two lakes dotted with islands, the Spree flows into Berlin. Its upper reaches are favorite vacation spots for Berliners, who look upon the region much as Chicagoans look upon the Wisconsin lake district.

When thousands from near-by cities flock to this quaint nook of Germany in summer the Wend natives cash in on their cucumbers, their eels, and cherry pies. They also reap a rich harvest from the oddly carved wooden geese and dolls they make. And they take toll from the couples and sightseers who pole up and down the labyrinth of water lanes that divide the Spreewald into a thousand, charming, green isles.

To this place, too, all kinds of societies and "bunds" come for their outings. Many walking clubs of school boys and girls from Berlin and Leipzig make it their destination.

The "Streets" of the Spreewald Are Wet in Summer and Dry in Winter

The Spreewald eel, slimy and slippery, is enshrined in the songs and traditions of this singular community. A Spreewald swamp home without its eel-traps would be like a chicken farm without chicken coops. And the eels always appear on the same plate with the cucumbers! Giant cucumbers are these, deadly green in shade and wickedly curved like scimitars.

Cucumbers lie in heaps. In summer the Wends pole punts piled high with the cucumbers to the markets at Burg or Kottbus.

A Spreewald village is usually a little Venice. Instead of having streets and sidewalks it is served entirely by crooked water streets. Every family has at least one boat. After a wedding ceremony a bridal pair, instead of dashing away in a motor car, climbs into a boat and sits down beneath a canopy of evergreen twigs and flowers.

In winter the entire Spreewald freezes over and the canals become spider webs of icy lanes and avenues. Then the Wend wears special shoe-skates. And, instead of taking the cow to and from her pasture in a flat bottom boat, he loads her onto a sled.

Some of the old Wendish superstitions date back perhaps 1,500 years. For

of their homeland's high altitude the climate is often cold. Yet they wear no clothes beyond loin coverings. They keep no domestic animals and do not weave, spin, or make implements except of stone. Of all the products of civilization the only thing they ask for is tobacco. Travelers state that the simple virtues of these small black men are admirable.

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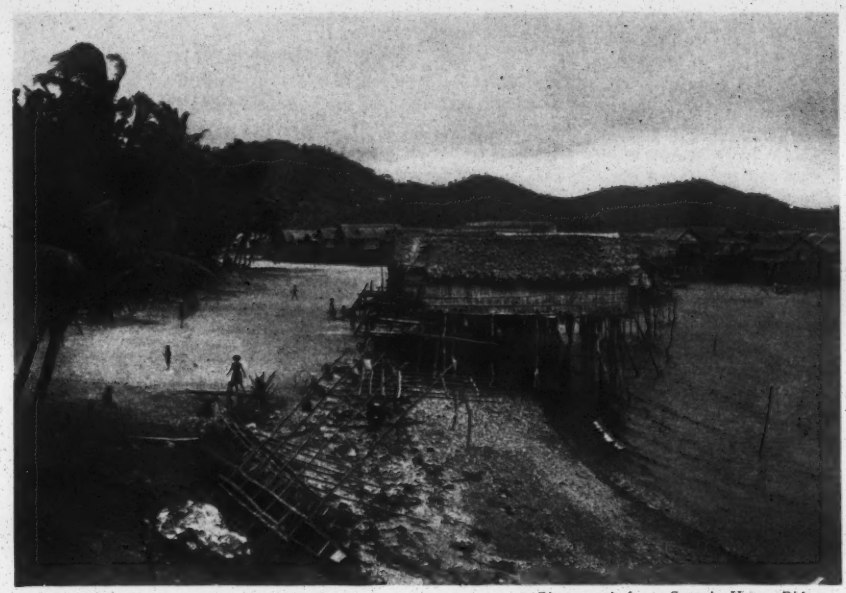


© *Photograph from Captain Harry Pidgeon*

THEY LIVE IN STILT HOUSES ALONG THE NEW GUINEA SHORE

The people of these villages carve dugout canoes, which they sail up and down the coast. Travelers claim they are probably the most skillful sailors of skiffs in the world. Two of the boats may be seen in the foreground.

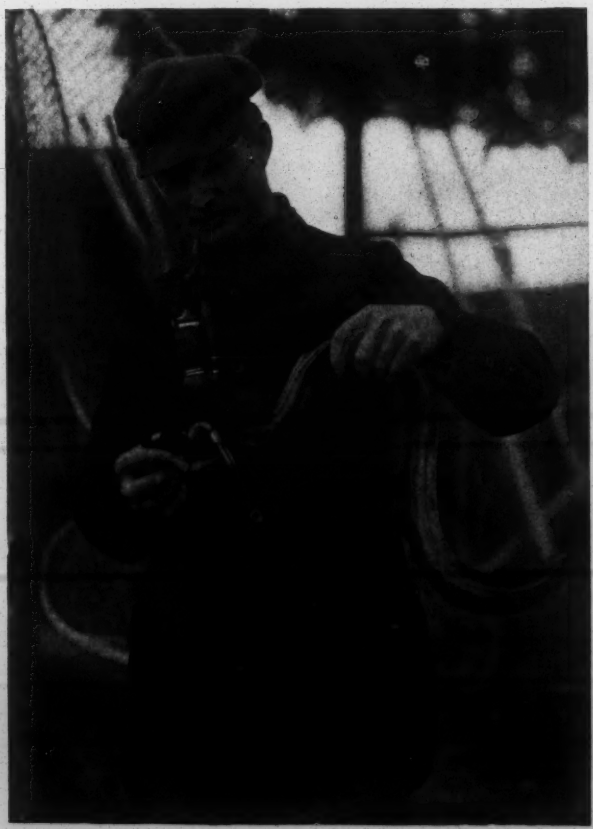
example, the Wends say that a crowing hen must be killed or she will bring bad luck. Another Wendish belief, also common among other races, is that when a man dies a window should be opened, so that his soul may take flight.

A Dried Bat's Heart Brings Luck, the Wends Think

If it thunders during a Spreewald wedding, every one is very unhappy, for this is a bad omen. During certain dances held in the spring the farmers jump up into the air, believing that the higher they jump on this occasion the higher their flax will grow.

A plague of rats is a sure sign of divine displeasure. The dried heart of a bat killed on Christmas Eve, if carried in the pocket, will bring luck at cards.

Bulletin No. 5, November 19, 1928.



© Photograph from Frederick Simpich

A SPREEWALD EEL TURNS HIS FACE TO THE ENEMY

An eel, a cucumber, and a piece of cherry pie is the Wendish epicure's dream of a perfect feast. After seventeen years of study and research, it has been discovered that the fresh-water eels of Europe breed in West Indian waters, some 4,000 miles distant. More than three years elapse between the time of their birth and their appearance in the waters of the Spree.